REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully

requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment the specification is amended to correct minor

informalities.

Further, the claims are amended to no longer recite any improper multiple

dependencies.

The presently submitted amendments are not believed to raise any issues of new

matter.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough

examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is

hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

**Customer Number** 

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)

SNS:smi

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

Attorneys of Record

I:\ATTY\SNS\264890US-PR.DOC

5